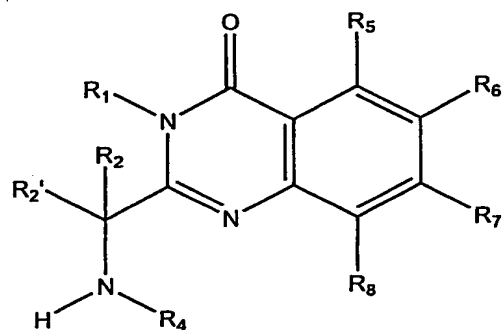


and



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Please amend claims 53 and 56 as follows:

53. (Amended) A compound according to claim 31[52] wherein:

$R_1$  is chosen from hydrogen, lower alkyl, substituted lower alkyl, benzyl, substituted benzyl, phenyl, naphthyl and substituted phenyl;

$R_2$  is chosen from hydrogen, lower alkyl and substituted lower alkyl and  $R_2'$  is hydrogen;

$R_3$  is chosen from  $C_1$ - $C_{13}$  alkyl; substituted lower alkyl; phenyl; naphthyl; phenyl substituted with halo, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, nitro, methylenedioxy, or trifluoromethyl; biphenyl, benzyl and heterocyclyl; and

$R_4$  is chosen from lower alkyl, substituted lower alkyl, cyclohexyl; phenyl substituted with hydroxy, lower alkoxy or lower alkyl; benzyl; substituted benzyl, heterocyclyl, heteroarylmethyl; heteroarylethyl; heteroarylpropyl and  $R_{16}$ -alkylene, wherein

$R_{16}$  is di(lower alkyl)amino, (lower alkyl)amino, amino, lower alkoxy, or N-heterocyclyl.

56. (Amended) A compound according to any of claims [32 to 45, 47, 48, 50, 51

and] 53 to 55 wherein the stereogenic center to which  $R_2$  and  $R_2'$  are attached is of the R configuration.